

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE EXEMPLARY CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. CHRISTIAN EUSEBIO TO THE COMMUNITY OF GUAM IN PERFORMING OUR ISLAND'S FIRST BARIATRIC SURGERY

**HON. MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 18, 2022*

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a community leader and public servant, Dr. Christian Eusebio, and congratulate him on his achievement of performing our island's first bariatric surgery.

On the island of Guam, there has been a dire health crisis characterized by a long-standing, tireless fight against obesity and diabetes. With more than 10 percent of our adult population diagnosed with diabetes, childhood obesity rates higher than the mainland United States, and cancer, diabetes, and heart disease among the leading causes of death on our island, our community suffers from these associated conditions at epidemic proportions. Further, a lack of comprehensive health resources and options amplifies this issue for those who need unique medical support like metabolic programs. Often, this results in many of our people seeking specific medical attention off-island or, for others, the acceptance of their conditions due to a lack of financial means for accessing treatments unavailable on Guam. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, these complex barriers to health have been further compounded, but the hard work of Dr. Eusebio has emerged as a beacon of hope we can cling to as we face some of our island's most challenging times.

Driven by the desire to make a positive difference in the world, inspired by his father, and motivated by the imperative to serve as a good role model for his children, Dr. Eusebio navigated a unique path into the field of medicine after earning degrees from the University of Connecticut, Howard University, and Ross University School of Medicine. While Dr. Eusebio has many accomplishments, which include becoming a board-certified surgeon, the first of his residency class to become a Fellow of the American College Surgeons, obtaining a Professional and Technology Scholarship through the University of Guam, and earning the Medical Student Resident Teacher of the Year Award at the University of South Florida, he also proudly represents our island as the first person from Guam to obtain the Nizar Oweida scholarship for his work in rural surgery.

Prior to Dr. Eusebio's bariatric work on Guam, no such option was available for our people. However, in taking the lead among medical professionals for creating this valuable resource to our community, he has concretely provided a second chance at life for many on our island who have found themselves at a standstill. Madam Speaker, I rise on behalf of the people of Guam, offering my greatest ap-

preciation for his commitment to improving the quality of health care to our island community and the wider Micronesian region. I am honored to have the opportunity to recognize a man who is actively working to open another, much needed door to the collective health and wellbeing of our people and congratulate him on a successful inaugural bariatric surgery. I wish him the best as he continues on his surgical journey, and I look forward to seeing the programmatic developments he will achieve in the coming years.

INTRODUCTION OF THE IMPORT SECURITY AND FAIRNESS ACT

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 18, 2022*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, since 1938 the intention of de minimis in U.S. trade law has been to ease the burden on the U.S. government related to processing imports—the revenue collected from imports of low value simply wasn't worth the effort. Instead of going through a formal process, these low-value imports enjoyed simplified import processes and didn't have to pay any duties, taxes, or fees due to the U.S. government. The original limit for such low value de minimis shipments was \$1.

The government has significantly raised this limit since 1938, to \$200 in 1990s and most recently to \$800 in 2016. The latest increase has coincided with an explosion in e-commerce packages that use the de minimis provision to enter the United States, currently more than two million packages per day. This influx of imports that do not pay duties, taxes, and fees and provide less data to the U.S. government has created a wide-ranging set of unaddressed issues, including compliance with U.S. laws and American competitiveness.

Regulators including U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Consumer Product Safety Commission have raised strong concerns about compliance with basic U.S. laws designed to protect the United States from unsafe and illicit imports, including goods made with forced labor. Plus, imports that don't have to pay duties, taxes, and fees at the border gain a significant competitive advantage over other similar products, particularly when imported from countries with markets distorted by government intervention.

The Import Security and Fairness Act addresses these concerns by prohibiting goods from countries that are both non-market economies and on the U.S. Trade Representative's (USTR) Priority Watch List from using de minimis. The legislation also prohibits goods subject to enforcement actions from using de minimis and closes the loophole for offshore distribution or processing facilities.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact the Import Security and Fairness Act and improve compliance with U.S. law and American competitiveness.

RECOGNIZING LT. COLONEL FLOYDRIDGE UNDERWOOD

**HON. J. FRENCH HILL**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 18, 2022*

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lt. Colonel Floydridge Underwood's devotion to our nation and his commitment to serving the JROTC program.

Lt. Col. Underwood was born in Selma, Alabama and knew at the age of 7 that he wanted to serve in the armed forces. He enlisted in the Air Force immediately after high school.

He rose through the ranks and was promoted to the rank of Lt. Colonel over the years. He served in the Air Force for 26 years serving through 22 different assignments.

During his time in the Air Force, he found himself leaning towards giving back to the community the knowledge he had acquired through his service.

Lt. Col. Underwood was selected to serve as the Commander for the JROTC program at Pine Bluff High School. He has served in this role for over 17 years.

During his time as the Commander for the Pine Bluff High School JROTC program, he inspired his cadets to follow this path and join the Armed Forces. More than 30 of his cadets have served in the Armed Forces.

Lt. Col. Underwood will be awarded with the 2022 Martin Luther King Jr. Salute to Greatness Award.

In Selma, he grew up during the Civil Rights movement and took every opportunity to stay involved in the movement.

In March 1965, Lt. Col. Underwood, this son of Selma joined my friend, late Congressman John Lewis, in crossing the Edmund Pettus Bridge enroute to Montgomery and into history.

Lt. Col. Underwood is a great example of an Arkansan who has dedicated his life to defending our Nation, educating our youth, and fighting for freedom of life and liberty.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN RUSSELL

**HON. DEBORAH K. ROSS**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 18, 2022*

Ms. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my dear friend, John Russell, who passed away on November 30, 2021.

John was a passionate North Carolinian and his contributions to our community will live on for years to come.

Born on October 22, 1954, John spent the early part of his life in Greensboro, North Carolina where he was a proud alumnus and three-sport athlete at Grimsley High School.

Music also played a large role in John's upbringing. Growing up, he was constantly surrounded by Opera. His mother Peggy, was an

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